

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. A method of automatically deploying program units
to a cluster of networked servers, comprising:
 assembling one or more program units for deploying to
a cluster of networked servers;
 retrieving information related to the cluster of
10 networked servers;
 generating deployment descriptors from the
information; and
 deploying the one or more program units to the cluster
using at least the deployment descriptor.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating
comprises:
 generating deployment descriptors from the
information; and
20 providing naming and directory interface binding
files.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieving
comprises automatically retrieving information related to
25 one or more application servers in the cluster.
4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
 dynamically allowing a user to select from the one or
more application servers.
- 30 5. The method claim 1, wherein the retrieving

comprises:

automatically retrieving information related to one or more virtual hosts in the cluster.

5 6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
dynamically allowing a user to select from the one or virtual hosts.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieving
10 comprises determining a type of application server installed on one or more nodes to which to deploy the program units.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the assembling
15 further comprises providing a user interface to gather information from a user about the one or more program units being deployed.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the cluster of
20 networked servers includes at least an application server and one or more clones of the application server.

10. The method of claim 1, further including allowing
re-deploying of already deployed one or more program units
25 to the cluster.

11. A program storage device readable by machine,
tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by
the machine to perform method steps of automatically
30 deploying program units to a cluster of networked servers,
comprising:

assembling one or more program units for deploying to
a cluster of networked servers;

retrieving information related to the cluster of
networked servers;

5 generating deployment descriptors from the
information; and

 deploying the one or more program units to the cluster
using at least the deployment descriptor.

10 12. The program storage of claim 11, wherein the
generating comprises:

 generating deployment descriptors from the
information; and

 providing naming and directory interface binding
15 files.

 13. A system automatically deploying program units to
a cluster of networked servers, comprising:

 data source management module operable to retrieve
20 data source information from an application server to which
to deploy one or more program units;

 cluster management module operable to retrieve cluster
information related to the application server; and

 container management module operable to retrieve
25 container information related to the application server,
 wherein the data source information, cluster
information, and container information are used to
automatically deploy the one or more program units to a
cluster of networked servers.

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 14. The system of claim 13, further including:

a user interface module to retrieve information from a user related to one or more user preferences for deploying the one or more program units.

5 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the user interface module is further operable to allow the user to change the retrieved data source information.

10 16. The system of claim 14, wherein the user interface module is further operable to allow the user to select a target cluster from the retrieved cluster information, to which to automatically deploy the one or more program units.

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